

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/CH 03/00222

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B17/86

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHEDMinimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
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| X | DE 43 29 788 A (MAUK RUDOLF ;HAHN MICHAEL (DE)) 9 March 1995 (1995-03-09) | 1-6,9, 13-16 17 |
| Y | column 4, line 15 - line 23 column 4, line 45 - line 66 | |
| X | US 5 443 509 A (BOUCHER JAMES A ET AL) 22 August 1995 (1995-08-22) | 1,2,7,8, 10-13 |
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| Y | WO 98 31293 A (AMREIN THOMAS ;SYNTHES AG (CH); SYNTHES USA (US)) 23 July 1998 (1998-07-23) | 17 |
| | figures 2-5 | |
| A | US 6 158 939 A (GROSSBERNDT HERMAN ET AL) 12 December 2000 (2000-12-12) | 17-19 |
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☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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A document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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